(a) the total number of Anganwadi Kendras in Araria area;

(b) whether there is no Anganwadi in Chhatapur even after getting approval in this regard; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) In Araria district there are 3 sanctioned ICDS projects viz. Raniganj, Jaukihat and Bhargawan with 180, 100 & 132 sanctioned Anganwadis respectively.

(b) There is no sanctioned ICDS project in Chhatapur block.

(c) Question does no arise.

[*English*]

Hydro–Electric Project in Sikkim

934. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some environmentalists have raised objections against the hydro–electric project in the tribal areas of North Sikkim;

(b) if so, the details thereof; hazards to be created by the construction of this; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). No, Sir. No representations have been received against hydro–electric projects in tribal region of North Sikkim.

(c) No project from North Sikkim is pending for environmental or forestry clearance.

Thalassemia among Children

935. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of newly born children in the country in 1991 having thalassemia gene and thalassemia major separately; and

(b) the steps being taken to help these children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) Considering the gene frequency of 2–3% in general population, it has been estimated that approximately 6,000 new cases of thalassemia are born each year.

(b) The Indian Council of Medical Research has intimated that they have created a facility for prenatal diagnosis of thalassemia at its Institute of Immunohaematology (IIH), Bombay. Council is also supporting a project at the University College of Medical Sciences, Delhi, to study the gene frequency and improve prenatal diagnosis to cut down the frequency and thereby decrease the incidence of the disease.

[*Translation*]

Reserved Vacancies of Trained Graduate Teachers in Delhi Administration

936. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacancies of Trained Graduate Teachers in the Education Department of the Delhi Administration declared in 1991 as reserved for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes candidates under the special recruitment drive;

(b) the number of posts filled up out of these; and

(c) the reasons for not filing up all the posts?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b). The number of vacancies of Trained Graduate Teachers in the Education Department of the Delhi Administration declared in 1991 as reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were 383 and 260 respectively, out of which 225 and 64 posts have been filled up by recrutment from the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes respectively.

(c) Delhi Administration have intimated that all posts reserved for SC/ST could not be filled up due to non–availability of eligible candidates and late finalisation of the total number of vacancies to be filled in 1991–92, as the matter was under consideration of the Finance Department of Delhi Administration.

Construction of New Railway Colonies

937. ACHARYA VISHWANATH DAS SHASTRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct new railway colonies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the name of places under the Northern Railway where such colonies are proposed to be developed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS be (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[English]

Discretionary Quota for allotment of Berths in Trains

938. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS pleased to state:

(a) the details of discretionary quota for allotment of berths in various trains by Railway Board, Northern Railway or any other authorities in Delhi.

(b) the criteria fixed for allotment of berths out of these quota;

(c) whether the criteria are being observed regularly;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether such allotments deprive the scope of genuine and needy passengers; and

(f) if so, the remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) A limited number of berths on trains originating from or passing through stations in Delhi area has been earmarked as Emergency Quota for complying with high official requisitions, VIPs and other emergent requests. This quota is jointly controlled by Ministry of Railways and Northern Railway.

(b) to (f). Requests are received from various quarters for release of berths from Emergency Quota which is normally released